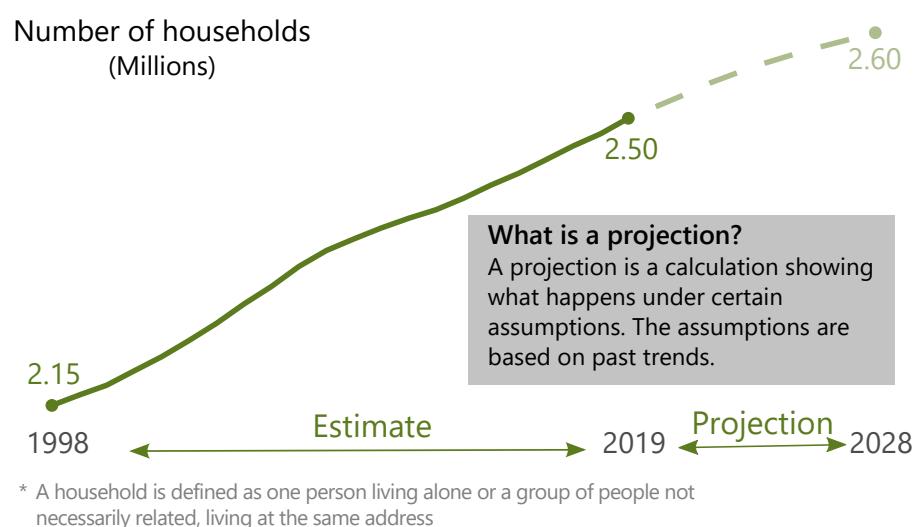


By 2028 the number of households is projected to increase

Over the next 10 years the number of households is projected to increase by 120,000 (5%) to 2.60 million.

The projected average increase will be 12,000 more households per year.

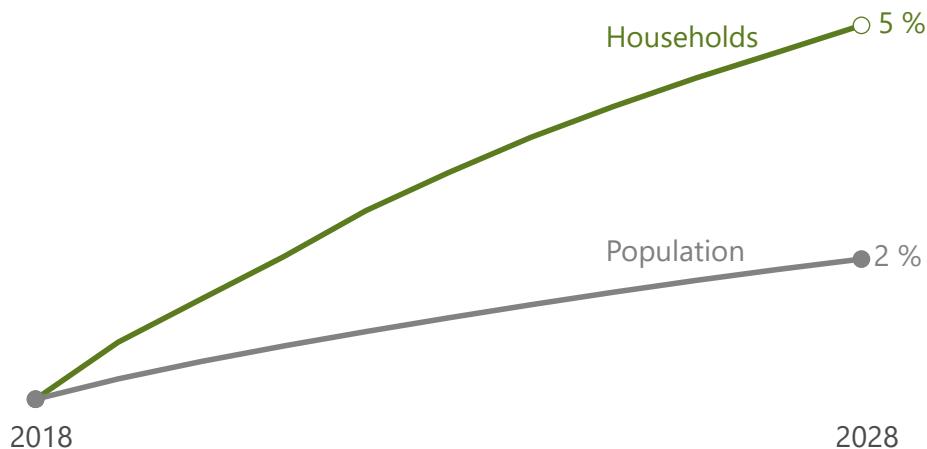


The number of households is projected to increase faster than the population

The average number of people in a household is projected to decrease as people increasingly live in smaller households or alone.

This causes households to increase much faster than the population.

Percentage change

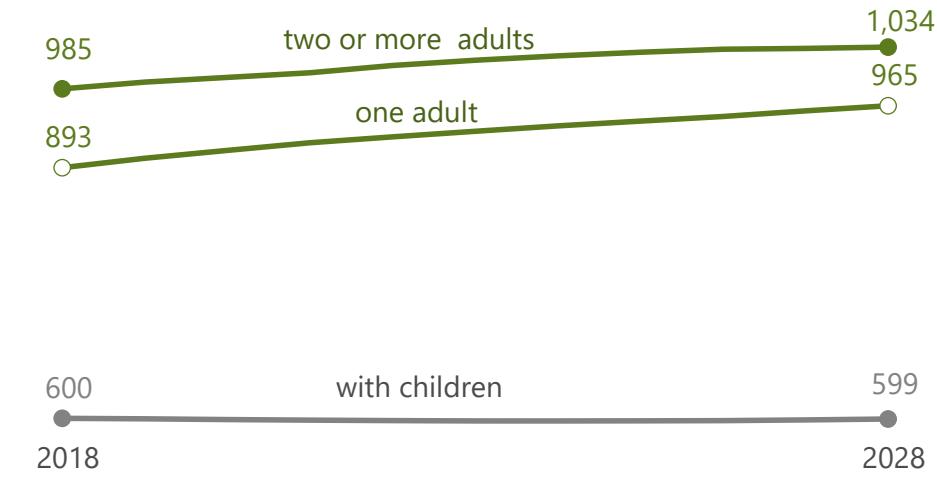


More people are living alone

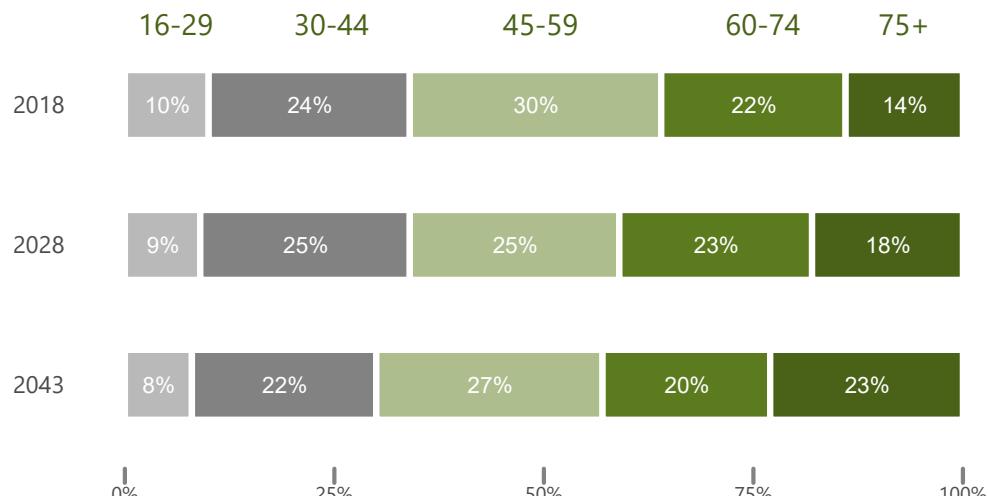
One person households are projected to have the largest increase by 2028. This is mainly due to the growth in the number of older people, as older people are more likely to live alone or in smaller households.

Households with children are projected to slightly decline.

Number of households (thousands)



Percentage of projected households by age group



Most of the growth is among older age groups

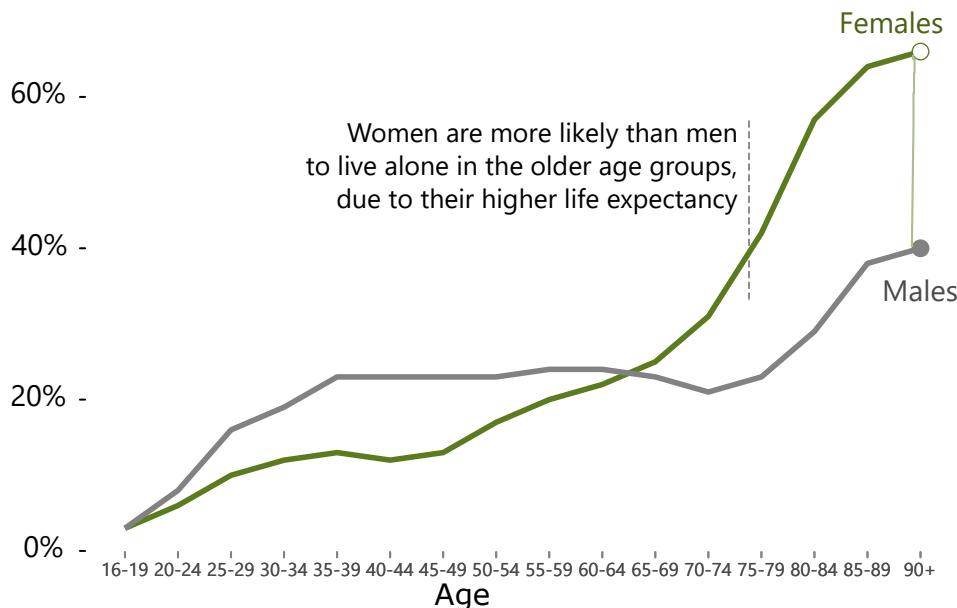
The proportion of the households with an HRP* aged 75 or over is projected to increase, reaching 23% by 2043.

The proportion of households headed by an HRP aged under 75 is projected to decrease.

*

*Household reference person (HRP) is defined as the eldest economically active person in the household, then the eldest inactive person if there was no economically active person.

Percentage of people projected to live alone in 2028



Older people are more likely to live alone

Older people are more likely to live alone than younger people.

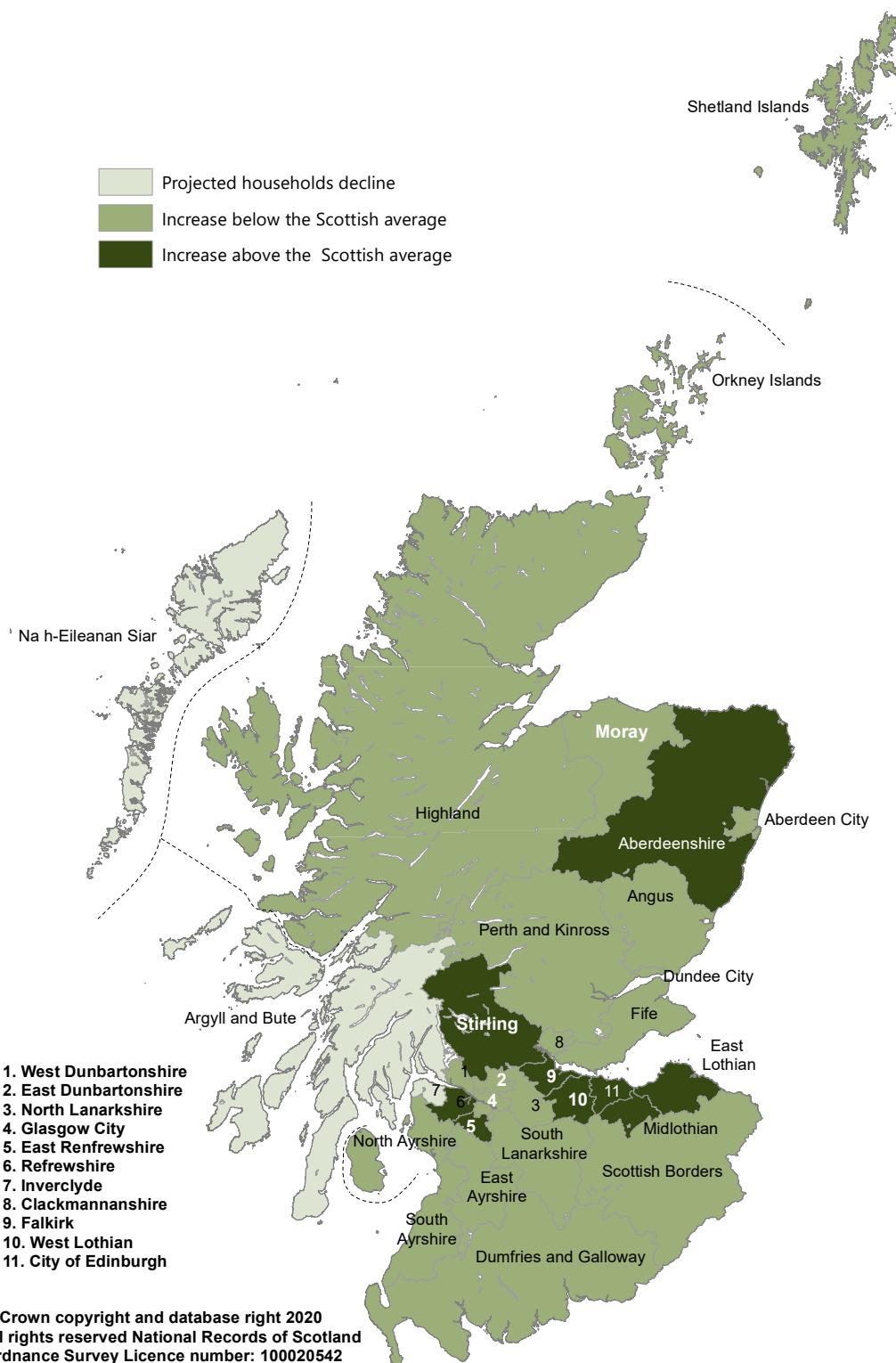
The number of people aged 65 and over living alone is projected to increase by 18% over the next 10 years.

Increases are particularly large in the oldest age groups (85 or over) where the number of people living alone is projected to increase by 21%.

The gender difference reflects women's greater life expectancy and tendency to outlive male partners.

The level of projected households change varies across Scotland's council areas

The number of households is projected to increase in most councils by 2028 (28 out of 32 areas). The larger percentage increases in the number of households are projected to be in the Edinburgh and Lothian area. In contrast, decreases are projected for some council areas in the west of the country.



There is more information on Scotland's council areas in the interactive data visualisation accompanying the 2018-based household projections which is available from the NRS website.